

THE SHEPHERD

2022

HAPPY NEW YEAR

"I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, Just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep"
~John 10: 14-15

MAY THE YEAR AHEAD SEE YOU BLESSED WITH ALL THE GOOD THINGS GOD HAS TO GIVE

Safety Coordinators:

As we begin a new calendar year, we want to take this opportunity to thank you for all the work you do in the Diocese of Salina, and share with you a letter Bishop Vincke received from StoneBridge Partners this fall. This letter represents true commitment and dedication to the Charter; promise to protect, pledge to heal.

Dear Bishop Vincke:

Based on the results our recently performed on-site audit of the Diocese of Salina, the Diocese has been found compliant with all audited Articles within the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People for the audit period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2021. The conclusions reached as to the compliance of your diocese are based upon inquiry, observation, and the review of specifically requested documentation turned in to StoneBridge Partners during the course of this audit. Thank you for your cooperation during this process.

Sincerely,

StoneBridge Business Partners

We sincerely thank you for your ministry as you continue to faithfully implement the Safe Environment Program in your parishes and schools. We will not have another on-site audit until 2024, but, we will have to submit data for the data collection requirements to StoneBridge Business Partners in 2022. Please continue to be vigilant and attentive to the efforts of protecting children and maintaining safe environments so our children can learn, pray and grow.



Any allegation of the abuse of a minor, may be reported to the
Kansas Protection Report Center
800.922.5330
KBI Crime Hotline
800.572.7463
or
ClergyAbuse@kbi.ks.gov
The Diocese of Salina fully participates in all criminal investigations related to abuse perpetrated by a member of the clergy or other church official.

For the safety of children and healing of those who have suffered abuse, the Diocese of Salina provides

Hotline: 866.752.8855 #1067

Website: www.reportandprotect.com

Email: reportabuse@salinadiocese.org

Reports will be responded to promptly by the Victim Assistance Coordinator.

*"Rescue me, Lord, from my foes,
for I seek refuge in you."*

- Psalm 143:9



Safe Environment Office
Diocese of Salina

To report an incident of sexual abuse and related misconduct by a Bishop or Religious Superior currently or in the past, the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Services provides
Hotline: 800.276.1562
Website: reportbishopabuse.org

All reports are confidential with the exception of those involving the abuse of minors which will be immediately reported by the Diocese to the proper authorities, as required by Kansas State Law and Diocesan Policy.

NEWS AND NOTES

from the Safe Environment Office

As the world continues to deal with the stresses of the pandemic, it is important for adults (especially parents) to manage their own stress effectively and allow themselves to continue functioning when faced with challenges, adversities, and trauma.

Parents being the most important people in a child's world, let us be sure our own homes are safe havens for our children.

Easy ways to prevent abuse from happening in our homes:

- Learn what is age appropriate. Having realistic expectations of what children can handle will help avoid frustration and anger at normal childhood behavior.
- Develop new parenting skills. Learn appropriate discipline techniques and how to set clear boundaries for your children. Parenting classes, books, and seminars offer this information.
- Take care of yourself. The worst tends to come out of us, parents or not, when we are overwhelmed, stressed or anxious. Connecting with other people, getting enough sleep, eating well and regular exercise are excellent ways to take care of yourself.
- Get help when needed. If you were abused or neglected as a child or find yourself feeling overwhelmed and would like to talk to someone, call our Victim Assistance Coordinator 866-752-8855 #1067

Facts about child abuse and neglect:

- There is more than one type of child abuse. Child abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional or neglect. Signs of abuse may not always be obvious.
- Abuse and neglect don't just happen in poor families or "bad" neighborhoods. Child abuse crosses all racial, economic, and cultural lines.
- Most abusers are family members or others close to the family.
- Many abusive parents are victims of abuse themselves and don't know any other way to parent. Others may be struggling with mental health issues or substance abuse problems.

The church is the Body of Christ. All members of the Church are linked to one another. We ALL have a responsibility to ensure the safety of children in our parishes, schools, families and local communities. The Diocese of Salina has taken great strides in fulfilling our promise to protect children, educate our communities, and bring healing to those who have suffered abuse.

Are there people who sit next to you at mass each week who do not currently minister to minors, but could benefit from being educated on how to protect children? Please encourage them to contact the Safe Environment Office - 785-827-8746.

The more people who are educated on child sexual abuse, the safer our children will be!

PROMISE To Protect Pledge To HEAL

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